



NEWS RELEASE

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May 6, 2016

Former LAPD Jailer, Married Bail Bond Company Owners Charged with Conspiracy

A former Los Angeles police detention officer who worked in the Valley Jail Division and a couple who owned a Sherman Oaks bail bond company have been charged with a bail capping scheme, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Leonard Jimmy Ramirez (dob 3/29/72), William Aroutounian (dob 8/19/81) and his wife, Iryna McCormick (dob 10/15/82), allegedly conspired to illegally solicit bail bond contracts from jail inmates, a scheme known as "bail capping," prosecutors said.

Deputy District Attorney Rosa Alarcon with the Justice System Integrity Division is prosecuting the case.

Alarcon said Ramirez, a civilian employee who worked in the Van Nuys jail, allegedly provided contact information of arrestees to McCormick and Aroutounian, who owned BBB Bail Bonds Company, in exchange for kickbacks.

The three are charged in case BA446086 with one felony count each of conspiracy to commit bail solicitation and bail solicitation. Ramirez also is charged with one count of accepting a bribe from Aroutounian and McCormick. The complaint alleges the incidents occurred on or between Sept. 1, 2013, and Nov. 3, 2014.

The Los Angeles Police Department's Professional Standards Bureau launched an investigation after receiving a tip that Ramirez was illegally providing contact information to the couple, who in turn, would contact family members of arrestees.

Ramirez, who was released today on bond after being arrested on Thursday, is scheduled to be arraigned on June 3 in Department 30 at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center. Aroutounian and McCormick are scheduled to be arraigned May 23 in Department 30.

If convicted, Ramirez faces up to four years, eight months in state prison. McCormick and Aroutounian each face up to three years in state prison.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.